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Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Abyei

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 17 of Security Council resolution 2075 (2012), in which the Council requested that I continue to inform it of progress in the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), and to bring to its attention any serious violation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area (S/2011/384, annex). The report provides an update on the situation in Abyei and on the deployment and operations of UNISFA since my previous report, of 28 March 2013 (S/2013/198). It also provides an update on progress made in the implementation of the additional tasks mandated to UNISFA under Security Council resolution 2024 (2011) related to the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism.

II. Security situation

2. During the period under review, although the security situation in the Abyei Area remained generally stable, there were a number of incidents. The Sudan oil police force, consisting of between 120 and 150 personnel, remained deployed inside the Diffra oil complex, in violation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement and Security Council resolutions 1990 (2011), 2032 (2011), 2046 (2012), 2047 (2012) and 2075 (2012). The frequency of their movements outside the oil complex, however, decreased. On 8 April, eight members of the oil police were involved in a minor altercation with a few shopkeepers in Diffra.

3. Six to eight members of the "Tora Bora" rebel militia group, which entered the Abyei Area in November 2012, remained present in the vicinity of Um Khariet in eastern Abyei. On 30 March, UNISFA requested the group to desist from carrying weapons and wearing uniforms in the Abyei Area or to leave altogether. The group has thus far complied with the mission's request.

4. There were a number of isolated incursions into the Abyei Area, in violation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement, during the reporting period. UNISFA observed 10 members of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) on 16 March and 6 on 17 March in the vicinity of Anthony. The troops claimed to be on their way to a military camp in Aung Thau (Warrap State, South Sudan) from Rum Koor (Warrap

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State) through the Abyei Area and that this was currently the only possible route between the two locations. On 22 March, 35 armed members of SPLA were observed near Atay and left the Abyei Area before UNISFA could establish contact with them. The mission is engaging with the Government of South Sudan on this matter in order to prevent further incursions. On 18 April, heavily armed members of the South Sudan Liberation Army rebel militia group entered the Abyei Area in a convoy of approximately 90 vehicles. The group entered the north-eastern boundary of the Abyei Area and was observed in the vicinity of Domboloya. Following the mission's engagement, the group, which had stated an intention to settle there, immediately left the Abyei Area.

5. The number of Ngok Dinka returnees to areas north of the Kiir/Bahr el-Arab River reached approximately 21,600 and approximately 5,500 in Abyei town. Most of the Ngok Dinka displaced persons returned to locations near Abyei town, some proceeding to villages in northern Abyei. On 13 April, approximately 53 returnees moved from Abyei town to Makir. Furthermore, Ngok Dinka returnees continued with the reconstruction of their homes in several locations of return including Anthony, Akhengial, Noong and Tajalei. The migration of Misseriya nomads southwards through the Abyei Area continued during the reporting period. Currently around 100,000 Misseriya nomads, along with approximately 1.6 million livestock, are present in Abyei.

6. Unfortunately, a number of suspected intercommunal murders were committed during the period under review. On 24 March, UNISFA discovered the body of a murdered Misseriya herder in the vicinity of Makir. The Misseriya in the area claimed that Ngok Dinka individuals murdered the man and stole 215 cattle. UNISFA succeeded in locating and returning the cattle on 27 March. However, the perpetrators of the crime have yet to be apprehended. Immediately following the incident, on 25 March, approximately 30 Misseriya on motorcycles with AK-47s and rocket-propelled grenades assembled near Makir demanding that the Ngok Dinka vacate the area. Although UNISFA managed to contain the situation, some Ngok Dinka left Makir for Abyei town and Noong. On 15 April, a Ngok Dinka civilian was shot dead in Nyinchor village, near Abyei town. UNISFA is investigating the incident. On 20 April, another Ngok Dinka civilian was shot dead in the village of Mulmul, near Abyei town. On the next day, UNISFA apprehended eight Misseriya men suspected of committing the crime, interviewed them about the incident and handed them over to Misseriya community leaders in Um Khariet. On 23 April, two Ngok Dinka were murdered in Tajalei. UNISFA is investigating the incident.

7. On 4 May, following the conclusion of a meeting of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee in Abyei town, a 16-member delegation, composed of representatives of the Committee, the Government of South Sudan, civil society and the Ngok Dinka community, requested UNISFA to visit Tajalei, Noong and Makir. The delegation included the Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief, Mr. Deng Kuol Deng, and the Government of South Sudan Deputy Co-Chair, Mr. Deng Mading Mijak. While on its way back from lunch at the UNISFA battalion headquarters in Diffra to Abyei town, the convoy was stopped by a group of armed Misseriya in Baloom. The armed group refused to allow the convoy to proceed, citing their displeasure regarding the presence of the Ngok Dinka delegation in the area and demanding that they be handed over to them. UNISFA rejected this demand. As the number of armed Misseriya progressively increased to approximately 200 men, the convoy was reinforced with UNISFA armoured personnel carriers and tanks.

8. Following discussions with the UNISFA Head of Mission and Force Commander, Major General Yohannes Tesfamariam, which lasted more than three hours, the armed group allowed the convoy to leave to travel back to Diffra to continue discussions with some of its representatives. As the convoy was turning around towards Diffra, a Misseriya youth opened fire on the United Nations vehicle and killed the Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief and a UNISFA peacekeeper. The Misseriya assailant was killed and three UNISFA peacekeepers were injured in the exchange of fire which followed. The number of Misseriya casualties has not been confirmed.

9. On the morning of 5 May, a group of more than 250 Ngok Dinka youth arrived in Abyei town from Agok in a convoy of six trucks and vans and began causing unrest. Despite the efforts of UNISFA troops and Ngok Dinka civil society representatives to calm the situation, the youths burned down the market. Later that evening, another group of Ngok Dinka youth assembled and destroyed most of the Abyei town mosque. No casualties were reported in these incidents and the Misseriya traders had reportedly fled Abyei town the night before. On 6 May 2013, the funeral of the Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief was attended by between 4,000 and 5,000 people in Abyei town. The ceremony, which was attended by the UNISFA Head of Mission and Force Commander and Government of South Sudan officials, including the Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Mr. Deng Alor, and the Chief Negotiator with the Sudan, Mr. Pagan Amum, took place in a peaceful atmosphere.

10. A number of other security incidents occurred during the reporting period, including cattle-raiding. On 3 April, armed Misseriya nomads reportedly stole 166 Ngok Dinka cattle near Colognial village, south of Abyei town. Despite conducting an intensive search operation, UNISFA has thus far not been able to locate the cattle. On 4 April, UNISFA prevented three armed Misseriya from abducting a group of five Ngok Dinka youths in Dokura, central Abyei. On 10 April, UNISFA took two armed Misseriya into protective custody in Nyinchor following attempted attacks on them by the Ngok Dinka community. The mission confiscated their weapons and handed them over to Misseriya leaders in Diffra. On the same day, UNISFA detained seven armed Misseriya in the village of Duop in central Abyei and released them after having confiscated their weapons.

11. On 12 April, Misseriya nomads informed UNISFA that more than 300 of their livestock had been stolen, allegedly by armed Ngok Dinka in Dokura. UNISFA recovered the stolen livestock on the same day from two Ngok Dinka. The mission handed the two individuals to Ngok Dinka community leaders. On 22 April, a Misseriya nomad reported the theft of 1,000 of his cattle in the vicinity of Noong. UNISFA is investigating the incident. On 26 April, UNISFA encountered a group of 50 armed Misseriya in the vicinity of Kulshewa in south-eastern Abyei. The group, who claimed to be searching for stolen cattle, was handed over to Misseriya leaders in Shegeg. On the same day, armed Misseriya abducted a Ngok Dinka boy in the Atay area. UNISFA successfully located him and returned him to his family.

12. Commercial activities in the Abyei town market continued during the period under review. UNISFA troops and police advisers maintained a continuous presence in the area in order to address intercommunal security and petty crime concerns. On 26 March, a Misseriya trader stabbed a Ngok Dinka youth after a drunken altercation, resulting in the Ngok Dinka youth sustaining minor injuries. UNISFA contained the situation and the trader was relocated out of the area. On 22 April, a

group of Ngok Dinka assaulted a Misseriya trader in the Abyei town market. The victim was treated for minor injuries.

13. During the reporting period, the United Nations Mine Action Service and its contractor focused on the clearance of areas of Ngok Dinka return and Misseriya migration routes. The teams removed 604 items of explosive remnants of war and over 500 kg of small arms ammunition, completed general mine action assessments in more than 67 villages and declared 1,824 m^2 of land as cleared. On 20 April, a landmine explosion resulted in the death of three and injuries to five Ngok Dinka civilians who were travelling in a minibus from Agok towards Karioch. The investigation by the Mine Action Service revealed that the landmine was inadvertently dumped, along with soil and earth that had been excavated and brought from another location to an area where road construction activity was ongoing. The Mine Action Service carried out demining of the area, but found no evidence of any more landmines.

III. Political developments

14. Very little progress was made on the implementation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement during the reporting period. The Sudan and South Sudan have not resolved the dispute over the composition of the Abyei Area Council which has, in effect, prevented the establishment of the other temporary institutions, namely the Abyei Area Administration and the Abyei Police Service. Furthermore, no progress was made on the resolution of the final status of the Abyei Area.

15. On 27 March 2013, the Sudan Co-Chair of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee informed UNISFA that the Government of the Sudan had finalized a draft framework for the Abyei Police Service based on the draft concept note on the Abyei Police Service that UNISFA presented to the parties in February 2013. Similarly, South Sudan has formulated its concept for the Abyei Police Service. The issue of the formation of an Abyei Police Service will be discussed during the future meeting of the Committee.

16. On 12 April 2013, further to the decision of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee in January to refer the issue to the respective presidents, discussions on the implementation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement continued between President Omar al-Bashir and President Salva Kiir during their summit meeting in Juba. Although the two Presidents did not make any substantial progress in resolving the dispute over the composition of the Abyei Area Council, they did agree to continue their efforts to resolve the Abyei issue in accordance with the implementation matrix of 12 March. The Presidents agreed to hold the next summit in Khartoum.

17. The Abyei Joint Oversight Committee held one meeting during the reporting period. On 18 March, President Kiir appointed Edward Lino as the South Sudan Co-Chair of the Committee following the departure of Mr. Luka Biong Deng. In the light of the recent intercommunal security incidents, on 24 April, UNISFA wrote to the Sudan and South Sudan Co-Chairs inviting the parties to an extraordinary meeting of the Committee. The parties agreed and met in Abyei town on 2 and 3 May. The parties discussed the deteriorating security situation and the prevalence of arms among the local communities in the Abyei Area. The Committee decided to ensure that the Abyei Area would be made a "weapons-free area" in accordance with the 20 June 2011 Agreement, that all perpetrators of criminal acts would be brought

to justice, by traditional or by formal means, and that the Committee would maintain oversight over all such decisions of the traditional leadership. The Committee also agreed that its Co-Chairs should immediately engage their community leaders through a conference within two weeks in order to promote reconciliation and assist in addressing their security and socioeconomic needs. Perhaps most significantly, the Committee urged the two Governments to expedite the process of the formation of the Abyei Police Service.

18. Following the attack on the UNISFA convoy and the killing of the Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief and UNISFA peacekeeper on 4 May, the Governments of both the Sudan and South Sudan issued statements in an effort to defuse tensions. On 5 May, the Government of the Sudan expressed its deep regret, condemned the killing and extended its deep condolences to the family of the late Paramount Chief, the Ngok Dinka community, the Government and people of Ethiopia, and the Misseriya community. It also announced that an urgent, transparent, thorough and fair investigation will be carried out and that those responsible for the incident will be held accountable. On the same day, in a press statement, the Government of South Sudan strongly condemned the incident and offered its condolences to the people of Abyei, UNISFA and the Government of Ethiopia. It also requested UNISFA to search for the perpetrators of the crime and ensure that they are brought to justice, as well as for the United Nations and the African Union to immediately investigate the incident.

19. On 5 April, further to reports of a planned student visit from Khartoum to the Abyei Area, the South Sudan Co-Chair of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee submitted a letter of protest to the Sudan Co-Chair and UNISFA, stating that the Government of South Sudan was never consulted on this matter and that it should be postponed in order to avoid any security incidents. On 6 April, after a protest in front of UNISFA headquarters in Abyei town, a group of approximately 50 Ngok Dinka presented the mission leadership with a petition objecting to any "illegal convoys" to the Abyei Area. On 7 April, a group of seven students from Khartoum visited Diffra, but did not proceed to Abyei town following consultations with UNISFA.

IV. Status of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism

20. In contrast to the implementation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement, the Sudan and South Sudan made substantial progress on the implementation of their security agreements, namely the Agreement on Border Security and the Joint Political and Security Mechanism of 29 June 2011, the Agreement on the Border Monitoring Support Mission of 30 July 2011, the Agreement on Security Arrangements of 27 September 2012 and the security matrix of 8 March 2013.

21. During the period under review, the Joint Political and Security Mechanism held two extraordinary meetings in Addis Ababa, on 19 March and on 22 and 23 April. During both meetings, UNISFA provided briefings on the status of the operationalization of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism and the withdrawal of the parties' forces from the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone. During the latter meeting, the Joint Political and Security Mechanism endorsed the call of the UNISFA Head of Mission and Force Commander for the parties to

control police forces and communities on their side of the Border Zone in order to avoid any security incidents.

22. With respect to the operationalization of the Border Mechanism, immediately following the signing of the security matrix on 8 March, UNISFA began the transfer of the headquarters from Assosa, Ethiopia, to Kadugli (Southern Kordofan, Sudan). This was followed by the swift deployment of monitors from the Sudan and South Sudan. Currently, there are 32 monitors from UNISFA, 33 from the Sudan and 35 from South Sudan deployed at the Border Mechanism headquarters. On 26 March, with the signing of a memorandum of understanding, the Government of South Sudan provided UNISFA with the requisite land for the Border Mechanism sector headquarters in Gok Machar (Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, South Sudan). On 17 April, a Border Mechanism advance party consisting of five UNISFA and two South Sudan monitors arrived in Gok Machar.

23. The Sudan and South Sudan also made progress in the operationalization of the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone. As provided in the security matrix of 8 March 2013, the parties committed themselves to withdraw their forces to their side of the Border Zone centreline by 17 March, except in the 14-mile area where this process was to be completed by 24 March. They further committed themselves to completely withdrawing their forces from the Border Zone by 5 April.

24. On 13 March, the Government of South Sudan presented the Border Mechanism with a plan for the withdrawal of its forces, which included details on the withdrawal from 10 locations within the Border Zone. From 23 to 26 March, joint Border Mechanism teams, including UNISFA, the Sudan and South Sudan monitors, verified that there was no military presence in four of those locations: Kiir Adem, Tishwin, Wonthou and Sira Malaga. On 27 March, the Government of the Sudan presented the Border Mechanism with its list of 13 withdrawal locations within the Border Zone. From 1 to 3 April, the Border Mechanism conducted the aerial verification of four locations of withdrawal of the Sudan Armed Forces provided by the Sudan: Al-Falah, Al-Radoum, Al-Kwek and Kilo 4. No armed forces were observed during those verifications either. On 29 and 30 March, the Border Mechanism conducted aerial verification missions within the Border Zone, south of Heglig, and did not observe any military presence. On 26 March and 11 April, the Governments of South Sudan and the Sudan, respectively, confirmed to UNISFA the withdrawal of their forces from the Border Zone.

25. Despite this progress, however, the parties continued to accuse each other of maintaining an armed presence inside the Border Zone. Following the expiration of the deadline of 5 April for withdrawal of forces from the Border Zone, on 22 April UNISFA informed the Joint Political and Security Mechanism that no definitive findings regarding the compliance of the parties with that deadline could be made until the Border Mechanism is able to conduct ground verifications within the Border Zone. Currently, the Border Mechanism is unable to conduct ground verifications without a force protection unit. On 21 April, the Border Mechanism conducted an aerial verification of the following locations in the 14-mile area: Samaha, Milkmair, Rahdangate and Bahr-Arab. The Border Mechanism did not observe a military presence, except in Al-Gharif where monitors observed an undetermined number of troops and three pick-up trucks located near a military camp.

26. During the meeting of the Joint Political and Security Mechanism on 22 and 23 April, the parties agreed that the Ad Hoc Committee would convene its first

meeting within seven days under the auspices of UNISFA. According to the terms of reference agreed upon by the parties, the Ad Hoc Committee will be composed of two members each from UNISFA, the Sudan, and South Sudan, and will be tasked by the Mechanism to investigate security-related complaints within 50 km of the Border Zone centreline, excluding the Border Zone itself. On 19 March, the Sudan and South Sudan provided UNISFA with the names of their nominees for the Committee. On 13 and 14 April, the two members of the Ad Hoc Committee from the Sudan conducted a familiarization visit to the Border Mechanism headquarters in Kadugli. UNISFA further invited the Ad Hoc Committee members of both countries to Kadugli by 3 May to finalize the Committee's terms of reference and operating procedures. However, neither country has yet responded.

27. The Joint Political and Security Mechanism also endorsed the recommendation of the Joint Technical Border Coordination Committee for the immediate opening of the following eight border crossings, to facilitate trade and movement between the countries: from Kosti (White Nile State, Sudan) to Renk (Upper Nile State, South Sudan); from Heglig (Southern Kordofan, Sudan) to Bentiu (Unity State, South Sudan); from El-Mughlad (Southern Kordofan, Sudan) to Aweil (Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, South Sudan) via Meiram (Southern Kordofan, Sudan); from Babanusa (Southern Kordofan, Sudan) to Aweil; from El-Radoum el-Buram (Southern Darfur, Sudan) to Raja (Western Bahr el-Ghazal, South Sudan) via Tumsaha; from Kosti to Kaka (Upper Nile State, South Sudan) via El-Megenes; and from Ed Damazine (Blue Nile State, Sudan) to Renk, via Buut and Babnis. The remaining two corridors, from El-Mughlad to Toralei (Warrap State, South Sudan) via the Abyei Area, and from Tolodi (Southern Kordofan, Sudan) to Tonja (Upper Nile State, South Sudan) would be opened later, during the second phase.

28. Finally, the Joint Political and Security Mechanism also adopted the terms of reference of the Joint Security Committee, a new mechanism which will be tasked with overseeing the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Non-Aggression and Cooperation which was signed by the parties on 10 February 2012. The next meeting of the Joint Political and Security Mechanism was scheduled to be held in Juba on 22 May 2013.

V. Humanitarian situation

29. Although needs-based assistance continued to be provided to the communities in the Abyei Area, the number of humanitarian personnel and level of assistance remain inadequate for the entire Abyei Area. While the overall health situation in the Abyei Area is stable, health services north of Abyei town remain inadequate, thus adversely affecting the humanitarian community's capacity for disease surveillance in the region.

30. The World Food Programme provided food assistance to more than 78,000 people in the Abyei Area during the reporting period. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) continued its efforts to mitigate the effects of water scarcity and lack of basic facilities by completing a number of projects in the Abyei Area. It renovated two health clinics and five water points in central Abyei, four schools, three health clinics and seven water points in central and southern Abyei, and assisted 146 households with emergency shelter assistance. In addition, IOM and the United Nations Development Programme renovated two schools in northern Abyei.

31. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) assisted over 200 returnees with non-food items and provision of emergency shelter implements. United Nations agencies conducted a number of inter-agency assessments to communities in northern Abyei. Water, health care and education were priority needs and efforts to meet these requirements are ongoing.

VI. Protection of civilians

32. Pending the establishment of the Abyei Area temporary institutions, UNISFA continued to implement its multifaceted conflict prevention and mitigation strategy, which consists of monitoring and early warning assessments, conducting day-and-night patrols, and promoting intercommunal dialogue between the Ngok Dinka and Misseriya communities and interaction with Government officials in the Sudan and South Sudan. However, the vacuum resulting from a lack of any administrative or law and order institutions continues to create a serious burden for UNISFA.

33. The mission continued engaging with the communities, primarily through the use of the joint security committees, in order to ensure a peaceful migration process. As described above, despite the fact that the situation remained generally stable during the reporting period, UNISFA received a number of reports of intercommunal murders and cattle-raiding. Furthermore, intercommunal tensions remained high due to the limited access to water and grazing land for the Misseriya nomads and the decision of most of the Ngok Dinka community to continue to withhold such access. In addition, on an increasing number of occasions, UNISFA had to physically prevent the entry of nomads and their cattle into areas populated by Ngok Dinka.

34. UNISFA continued to promote intercommunal dialogue as a means of preventing violence. The mission facilitated intercommunal meetings at the local level and mediated the resolution of a number of problems between the communities. For example, on 25 March, following the lack of access for Misseriya in the area, UNISFA successfully mediated an agreement on water-sharing between the Misseriya elders of the Mezagna clan and the Ngok Dinka chiefs in Tajalei and Todach. Despite the strenuous efforts of UNISFA to discourage the open carrying of arms by persons within the Abyei Area, the prevalence of small arms among both the communities continues to be a serious security concern.

35. Cases of extortion increased in various areas along the roads in the Abyei Area. UNISFA continued its efforts to minimize this menace, by engaging with the communities and intensifying patrols in the affected areas.

36. There have been no new developments with regard to the operationalization of human rights monitoring in the Abyei Area, as provided under paragraph 14 of resolution 2075 (2012), during the period under review.

VII. Deployment of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei

37. As at 13 April 2013, the military component of UNISFA comprised 3,973 of its authorized troop strength of 4,200. The remaining 227 troops will be deployed within the air aviation unit, as military observers, staff officers and as part of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (see annex I). The available

head room from the aviation unit will be used for a temporary surge to enhance field engineering capabilities.

38. The UNISFA military component continued to be deployed in three sectors (see annex II). The UNISFA deployment scheme ensures that it is able to implement its conflict prevention and mitigation strategy and to provide a deterrent effect against any armed incursion into the Abyei Area.

39. During the reporting period, there has been no change in the number of deployed United Nations police personnel on the ground. As at 30 April 2013, it remained 11 personnel, including one Acting Senior Police Adviser. The police personnel assisted the UNISFA military component in maintaining law and order. The visa request for the new Senior Police Adviser (Ghana) was approved in April and his deployment is expected in the near future.

VIII. Mission support

40. UNISFA continued its efforts to provide accommodation, road access and ration supplies for its troops during the reporting period. Following the completion of the new extension of hard-walled office accommodation at mission headquarters, 151 additional hard-walled prefabricated buildings have been erected at several troop deployment locations within the Abyei Area, including company operating bases and temporary operating bases and staff accommodation. Nevertheless, critical infrastructure problems remain, such as poor road and air connectivity and a lack of warehousing facilities. UNISFA continues to be dependent on other missions in the region for several logistics and procurement requirements, which impedes operational efficiency.

41. The mission continued preparations to upgrade road accessibility to company operating bases in preparation for the annual wet season, despite some delay due to the late delivery of laterite by the vendors. UNISFA also ensured full road access to dry season company operating bases and temporary operating bases.

42. In April 2013, a total of 237 visas were granted to UNISFA staff, including 36 international civilian staff, 26 military officers, 32 international contractor staff, and 136 mine action contractors and seven visas for Mine Action Service staff members.

43. The logistical preparations for the operationalization of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism continued during the reporting period. Following the provision of land by the authorities in South Sudan, preparations for the establishment of the sector headquarters in Gok Machar (Northern Bahr el-Ghazal, South Sudan) are in place, including the initial construction activity and the prepositioning of a Border Mechanism advance team, essential local staff, logistics staff and equipment. Voice and data communication have also been set up, and a United Nations Mine Action Service team began clearing routes and sites to enable the Border Mechanism to immediately conduct ground monitoring as soon as protection forces are available. For the full operating capability, a reconnaissance mission to Buram (Southern Darfur, Sudan), has yet to be carried out, for lack of security clearance from the Government of the Sudan. A reconnaissance mission to Malakal (Upper Nile State, South Sudan) is now being planned in May 2013 to identify land following advice from the United Nations Mission in South Sudan that

it was not feasible to allocate land to UNISFA within its team site. Meanwhile, UNISFA is carrying out a rapid drawdown of staff in the former temporary headquarters in Assosa, Ethiopia. Only four international staff members remain there in order to liquidate the headquarters by 31 May 2013.

IX. Financial implications

44. The General Assembly, by its resolution 66/241 B of 21 June 2012, appropriated the amount of $257.9 million for the maintenance of the Force for the period from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of UNISFA beyond 31 May 2013, the cost of maintaining the Force would be limited to the amount approved by the General Assembly for the 2012-13 financial period. As at 6 May 2013, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNISFA amounted to $49.4 million. Total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations at that date amounted to $1,405.7 million. Reimbursement to the contributing Government for troop and contingent-owned equipment costs has been made for the periods up to 31 December 2012 and 30 September 2012, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

X. Observations and recommendations

45. The simultaneous Misseriya migration and return of Ngok Dinka displaced persons has resulted in a significant population influx into the Abyei Area. The two communities remain armed, hostile and highly distrustful of each other. As a result, the security situation in the Abyei Area has deteriorated during the reporting period, culminating in the killing of the Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief and unrest in Abyei town. I reiterate my strong condemnation of that attack and express my deepest condolences to the Ngok Dinka community, the Government of Ethiopia and the families of the dead and injured. I strongly urge the leadership of the two communities, in accordance with the decisions taken during the last meeting of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee, to ensure that their community members do not to carry weapons inside the Abyei Area and to assume a proactive role in establishing an intercommunal dialogue, which would serve to decrease tensions.

46. The continued presence of the Sudan oil police in Diffra and the "Tora Bora" rebel militia group remains a matter of concern. Their presence constitutes a violation of the 20 June 2011 Agreement and Security Council resolution 2046 (2012). I urge the authorities of both the Sudan and South Sudan to take immediate measures to ensure their complete withdrawal and to prevent the entry of any unauthorized armed elements into the Abyei Area.

47. The persistent differences over the composition of the Abyei Area Council and resulting blockage over the establishment of the Abyei Area temporary institutions continue to undermine efforts to stabilize the security and humanitarian situation. This situation will not improve as long as the governance vacuum persists. The Abyei Area temporary institutions are critical for the facilitation of the return and resettlement of Ngok Dinka displaced persons, the migration of Misseriya nomads and the humanitarian and social needs of both communities. Furthermore, the establishment of the Abyei Police Service is the only means of ensuring the sustainable maintenance of law and order in the Abyei Area.

48. I commend both Governments for their positive and constructive cooperation with UNISFA on the timely operationalization of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism. I urge them to continue to implement their security agreements with the same level of commitment to ensure the complete redeployment of their respective forces from the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone and the full operationalization of the Border Mechanism. The full implementation of these agreements is necessary to establish full security along their common border. Similarly, I encourage both Governments to continue to work on implementing the provisions of resolution 2046 (2012) and to do so through dialogue and mutually acceptable solutions.

49. The presence of armed groups inside the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone remains a considerable security concern for the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism. I would therefore request the Council to accept my recommendation to grant the increase in the authorized strength of the UNISFA military component by 1,126 personnel, as detailed in my report of 28 March 2013 (S/2013/198).

50. Finally, I extend gratitude to my Special Envoy, Haile Menkerios, and to the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, led by President Thabo Mbeki, for their sustained efforts to assist the parties in resolving their post-secession issues. I am also thankful to the UNISFA Head of Mission, Major General Yohannes Tesfamariam, and his staff for their continued efforts to enhance peace and stability in the Abyei Area and to support the parties in the implementation of their security agreements.

Annex I

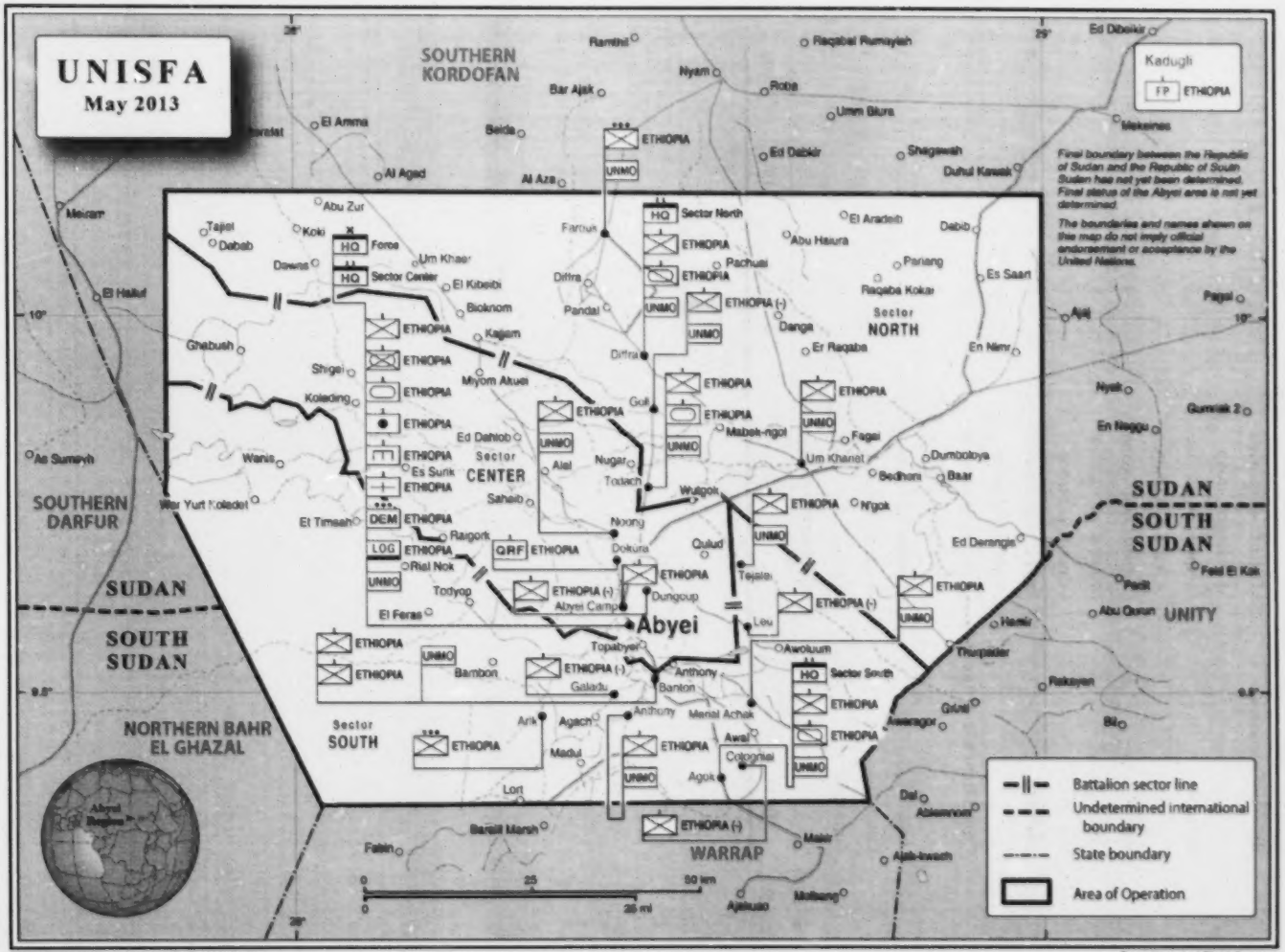
Composition of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei military component (including the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism)

Country	*Description*	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Benin	Experts on mission	3		4
	Contingent troop	1		
Bolivia	Experts on mission	3		4
	Contingent troop	1		
Brazil	Experts on mission	1		3
	Contingent troop	2		
Burundi	Experts on mission	1		1
Cambodia	Experts on mission	1		1
Ecuador	Experts on mission	1		1
El Salvador	Experts on mission	1		1
Ethiopia	Experts on mission	77	10	3 893
	Contingent troop	3 597	209	
Ghana	Experts on mission	3		5
	Contingent troop	2		
Guatemala	Experts on mission	2		3
	Contingent troop	1		
Guinea	Experts on mission	2		2
India	Experts on mission	2		4
	Contingent troop	2		
Indonesia	Experts on mission	1		2
	Contingent troop	1		
Kyrgyzstan	Experts on mission	1		1
Malaysia	Experts on mission	1		1
Mongolia	Experts on mission	2		2
Mozambique	Experts on mission	1		1
Namibia	Experts on mission	1		1
Nepal	Experts on mission	2		4
	Contingent troop	2		
Nigeria	Experts on mission	3		5
	Contingent troop	2		
Paraguay	Experts on mission	1		1
Peru	Experts on mission	2		3
	Contingent troop	1		
Philippines	Experts on mission	1		3
	Contingent troop	2		

Country	*Description*	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Russian Federation	Experts on mission	1		3
	Contingent troop	2		
Rwanda	Experts on mission	2		4
	Contingent troop	2		
Sierra Leone	Experts on mission	3		3
Sri Lanka	Experts on mission	5		6
	Contingent troop	1		
Ukraine	Experts on mission	2		4
	Contingent troop	2		
United Republic of Tanzania	Experts on mission	1		2
	Contingent troop	1		
Uruguay	Contingent troop	1		1
Zambia	Experts on mission	1		1
Zimbabwe	Experts on mission	2		3
	Contingent troop	1		
Total		**3 754**	**219**	**3 973**

Annex II

Deployment of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei



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Cartographic Section